

Watershed Plans

A watershed-based planning approach for water quality protection and remediation is an important framework for addressing today's water resource challenges. A watershed is the area of land where water drains to a common location, such as a river or stream. Using a watershed as a project boundary allows the plan to be defined by the hydrology of the area.

Watershed planning is a collaborative approach that addresses a variety of water resource concerns and opportunities. As part of the planning process, strategy recommendations are developed to help restore the beneficial uses of impaired waters or protect and maintain the quality of unimpaired or threatened waters. Since watershed planning creates a forum for community discussion and deliberation, other objectives are often pursued as well. These multi-objective plans acknowledge the value of water and other natural resources and, with this perspective, seek to improve quality-of-life in the watershed for both current residents and future generations.

CMAP has been involved in the development of numerous watershed plans in northeastern Illinois as a key step of implementing the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan. CMAP has worked directly with local stakeholders to develop watershed plans, assisted others with watershed plan development, provided administrative oversight on behalf of Illinois EPA for plans developed by others, and assisted with plan implementation following completion of watershed plans. Additionally, other partners have completed a number of watershed-based plans as well. Table 1 provides a list of the completed plans in the region as of 2014, with links to documents and partner organizations.

Table 1. Completed Watershed Plans, as of 2014

Watershed	Year	Partner	Location
9 Lakes Watershed-based Plan	2014	Fox River Ecosystem Partnership ; 4 Lakes Initiative ; CMAP	Lake County
Long Run Creek Watershed-Based Plan	2014	Long Run Creek Watershed Planning Network	Cook County - Will County
Mill Creek Watershed-based and Flood Mitigation Plan	2014	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County
Woods Creek Watershed-Based Plan	2013	Village of Algonquin	McHenry County - Kane County
Jelkes Creek Watershed Plan	2012	Jelkes Creek - Fox River Watershed Coalition	Kane County - McHenry County
Spring Creek Watershed Plan	2012	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County
Blackberry Creek Watershed Action Plan	2011	Fox River Ecosystem Partnership ; The Conservation Foundation; CMAP	Kane County - Kendall County
Ferson-Otter Creek Watershed Plan	2011	Fox River Ecosystem Partnership ; CMAP	Kane County
Hickory Creek Watershed Plan	2011	CMAP	Will County
Lower DuPage River Watershed Plan	2011	Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition	Will County - DuPage County - Kendall County
North Mill Creek/Dutch Gap Canal Watershed Plan	2011	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County - Kenosha County

Source: CMAP.

Table 1. (continued) Completed Watershed Plans, as of 2014

Watershed	Year	Partner	Location
Silver Creek and Sleepy Hollow Creek Watershed Action Plan	2011	Silver-Sleepy Hollow Creek Watershed Coalition; CMAP	McHenry County
Aux Sable Creek Watershed Management Plan	2009	Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition	Kendall County
Bull Creek Watershed Plan	2009	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County
Fish Lake Drain	2009	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County
Indian Creek Watershed Plan	2009	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County
Jackson Creek Watershed Plan	2009	Will County Stormwater Management Committee; CMAP	Will County
Beaver Creek Watershed Action Plan	2008	Kishwaukee River Ecosystem Partnership; CMAP	McHenry County
Dead River Watershed Plan	2008	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County
Kellogg Creek Watershed Plan	2008	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County
Lawrence Creek Watershed Plan	2008	Kishwaukee River Ecosystem Partnership; CMAP	McHenry County
Nippersink Creek Watershed Plan	2008	Nippersink Watershed Association	McHenry County
North Branch of the Chicago River Watershed Plan	2008	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County - Cook County
Upper Kishwaukee River Watershed	2008	Kishwaukee River Ecosystem Partnership; CMAP	McHenry County
Flint Creek Watershed Plan	2007	Flint Creek Watershed Partnership	Lake County - Cook County
Poplar Creek Watershed Action Plan	2007	CMAP	Cook County
Tyler Creek Watershed Plan	2007	Tyler Creek Watershed Coalition	Kane County
Upper DuPage River Watershed Plan	2007	DuPage River Coalition	DuPage County
Waukegan River Watershed Plan	2007	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County
Sequoit Creek Watershed Plan	2006	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County
Thorn Creek Watershed-based Plan	2005	CMAP	Cook County - Will County
Squaw Creek Watershed Management Plan	2004	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	Lake County

Source: CMAP.